

May 4, 1952

Dr. Tetsu Nakayama  
National Institute of Health  
Shiba Shirokane-daimachi  
Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan

Dear Dr. Nakayama:

Your airmail letter of April 29 has been received here May 2 (which is faster than some of our domestic mail).

I am gratified to note your interest in genetic recombination in bacteria. I regret that some of the papers of which you requested reprints are no longer available. For this reason, I have arranged for a reprinting of papers in bacterial genetics. If you are interested in this, please return the order form enclosed to the University of Wisconsin Press. I am sending you some other recent papers under separate cover. Also, I am waiting for a comprehensive review of our work to appear in the 1951 Cold Spring Harbor Symposium, now in press.

Recently, one of my students, N. Zinder, has completed his doctorate research on the question of genetic recombination in *Salmonella typhimurium*. A very different mechanism seems to be involved here. When cells of one strain are lysed by certain phages, they release particles (possibly the phage itself) which can carry over individual traits from one cell to another. We have submitted a manuscript on this subject to the Journal of Bacteriology. However, as this will not be printed for several months, I will send you a brief abstract. We have found no interaction between *Salmonella* and *E. coli*.

If you would like to do crossing work with *E. coli* K-12, may I suggest that you get in touch with Professor H. Kikawa at the Medical School, Osaka University. I have recently sent him a number of cultures for this purpose.

Yours sincerely,

  
Joshua Lederberg  
Associate Professor of Genetics